Japanzai
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A Youthful, Tenacious, "Ekiden Girl" Story!!
群青
GUN-JOU
The "Wound Up" and "The One Who Follows" just run towards a dream.
RUN!! WHAT IS THIS "TALENT" THEY SPEAK OF?
原作 坂本虹
Kou Sakamoto
作画 桐原いづみ
Idumi Kirihara

職員室
IN RESPONSE TO THE FEELINGS SURROUNDING THE "FEKIDEN CLUB FOUNDING", HIROMI WAS...
.....
.....
OKAY.
IF YOU CAN'T GATHER 5 MEMBERS
THEN YOU'LL LEAVE THIS SCHOOL
I'LL DEFINITELY GATHER 5 MEMBERS
BUT I WON'T GIVE UP UNTIL THE VERY VERY END

IF YOU CAN GATHER 5 MEMBERS ...
IF THAT TIME COMES ...
AMI AND I WILL LEAVE.
..
!

……
!
ギュッ

.....
UGA-JIN-SEN-SEI?
I'M SORRY ...
I WENT OFF ON AN ERRAND BEFORE.
SHINGAI-SAN LEFT EARLIER.
SHE INSISTED ON GOING HOME ALONE, SO I PUT HER IN A TAXI.
HER INJURY IS PRETTY MUCH JUST A LIGHT ABRASION.
HYPER-VENTILA-TING?
HHH-HAAA...
SHE GETS LIKE THAT AT TIMES.
IT'S DUE TO THE SHOCK OF HAVING THE TEACHER ADVISING HER CLUB ACTIVI-TIES IN MIDDLE SCHOOL... DIE.

ERM... ENOSHIIMA MIDDLE SCHOOL'S P.E. TEACHER...
HANASAKA-SENSEI, THEY SAID IT WAS...
THE OLD MAN'S
DEAD ?!

S...
SAVE ME...
EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!!

Goood Moorniiiingg!
YOMOGI-HARA-SAAAN!!
1-B
YO... YOMOGI-HARA-SAN...
MORN-ING.
ボーズッ
ボーズッ

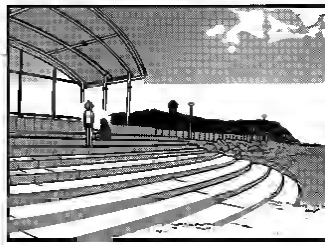
Note: Students normally attend school on Saturdays, but can have the day off if it's just after the school entrance ceremony.
WE GET TODAY OFF, THANKS TO THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY!
AND TOMORROW IS SUNDAY!
IN OTHER WORDS, WE CAN'T GO RECRUITING CLUB MEMBERS!
YUP.
SO WE HAVE ONLY ONE AND A HALF POSSIBLE RECRUITING DAYS BETWEEN NOW AND TUESDAY, THE PROMISED DEADLINE!
AND THE REALITY IS THAT WE'RE STILL THE ONLY CLUB MEMBERS!
YUP, YUP.
SO I THOUGHT ABOUT IT!
WHOA!
IN ORDER TO PICK UP PEOPLE INTERESTED IN THE EKIDEN CLUB,
WE WILL EMBARK ON AN INTENSIVE RECRUITMENT DRIVE!!

WE'LL CALL IT THE--
"LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD AND RUSH FORWARD TO MEET THEM,
THEN PERSUADE THEM" PLAN! IT'S OUR~ GREAT~ STRATEGY!
TO CARRY OUT THIS PLAN, I'VE GONE EVEN FURTHER!
I'VE PENETRATED THE OTONASHI GIRLS SCHOOL'S CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT INFORMATION!
Swear your allegiance!!
Come along quietly and join the Ekiden Club!!

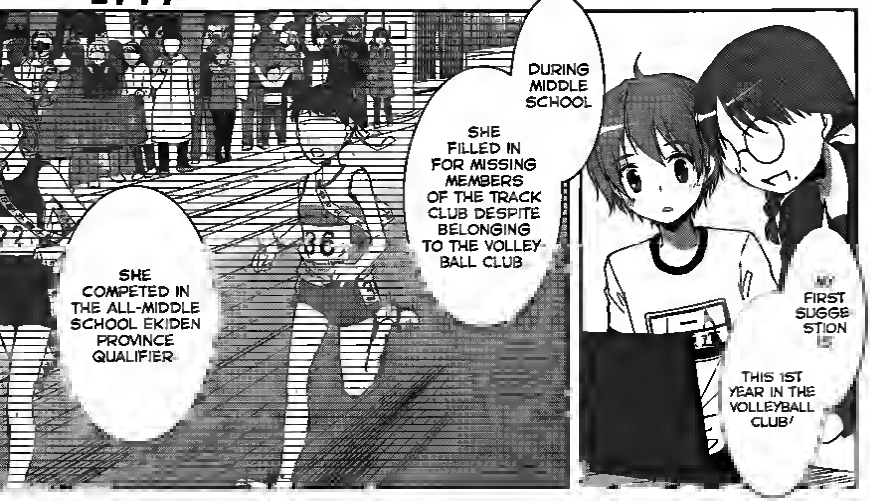
IT'S FOR THE EKIDEN CLUB!!
SO THAT MEANS ...
WOW.
SFX: CLAP CLAP
OTO-NASHI'S STUDENT DATA...?
HUH?
IT'S ALL FOR THE SAKE OF THE EKIDEN CLUB!!
OTHERWISE YOU'LL HAVE TO LEAVE OTONASHI
I'D HATE THAT!

DENDURU-CHAN...
なぁ
なぁ
1-A

OTONASHI GIRLS SCHOOL
音無女学園生徒名簿
STUDENT REGISTER
TOP SECRET
秘
ドヤァァァ…
HERE IT IS!!



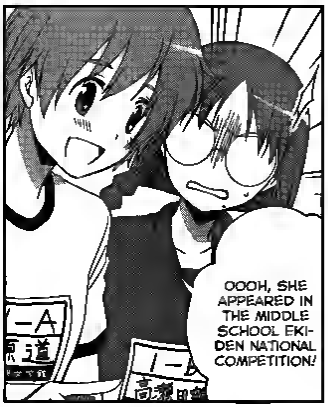
!!
NOW THEN, LET'S HOP TO IT.


DURING MIDDLE SCHOOL
SHE FILLED IN FOR MISSING MEMBERS OF THE TRACK CLUB DESPITE BELONGING TO THE VOLLEY-BALL CLUB
SHE COMPETED IN THE ALL-MIDDLE SCHOOL EKIDEN PROVINCE QUALIFIER
FIRST SUGGE STION
THIS 1ST YEAR IN THE VOLLEYBALL CLUB!

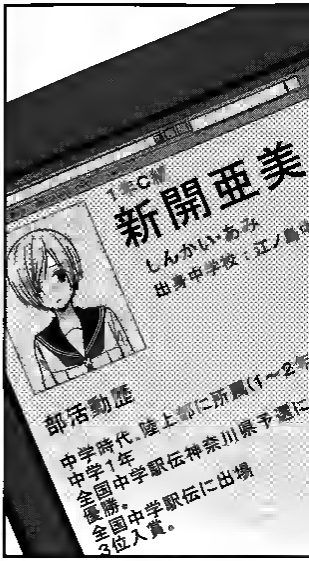
OH, ARE THERE TRACK CLUB GIRLS HERE?
WE CAN'T CALL EXTRAS A LUXURY!!
IN A SITUA-TION LIKE THIS
PERFECT FOR HOLDING TWO POSITIONS AT ONCE!!

ひぇ!!

N... NO, THAT GIRL WON'T DO!!


OOOH, SHE APPEARED IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL EKI-DEN NATIONAL COMPETITION!

AMI SHINGAI-SAN IS...

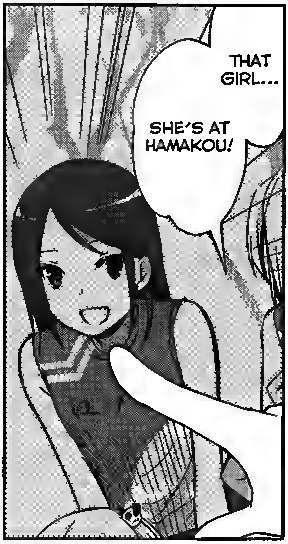

新開亜美
しんかいあみ
部活動歴
中学時代、陸上部に所属(1~2
中学1年
全国中学駅伝神奈川県予選に
優勝。
全国中学駅伝に出場
3位入賞。

MY MERE PRESENCE WAS CAUSING THAT GIRL TO SUFFER.
AND AIDA-SAN SAID THAT

THAT GIRL FROM YESTER-DAY...

.....
I DON'T KNOW, BUT...
全国中学駅伝県予選
江ノ島中学 連覇に期待
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN...?
蓬原
音無女
IF SHE HATES EKIDEN, SHE MUST HAVE HAD A TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCE.
HUH ...?
1-A
茅原 道

ENOSHIMA'S TRACK CLUB IS PRETTY TOUGH, RIGHT?
MANY OF THE TRACK CLUB MEMBERS WENT TO HAMAKOU.
……


THAT GIRL...
SHE'S AT HAMAKOU!

WILL KILL YOU.
WELL...
EH?!

IT'S A SHAME ABOUT SHINGAI-SAN,
BUT LET'S GIVE UP ON HER.
1-B

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED,
BUT IF WE GET INVOLVED IN THIS ANY FURTHER, AIDA-SAN

YO YOMOGI-HAKA-SAN, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
Y-YOU CAN'T BE GOING TO HAMA-KOU?!
NO WAY... YOU'RE GOING TO RUN THERE?!
TRAIN STATION
NO, THIS CAN'T BE...
ISN'T THIS WHAT YOUTH IS ALL ABOUT???

LOOK STRAIGHT FORWARD.
1-B
HERE I COME!!

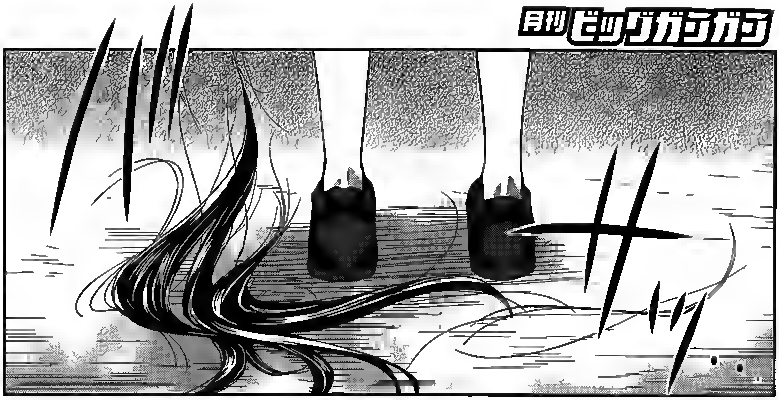
1-A
蓬原 達

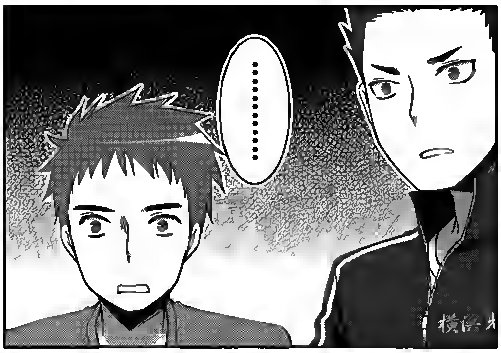
横浜光陽高等
DAMN, SHE HEARD US
YOU KEEP TALKING ABOUT YOUR NATURAL ABILITY... QUITE CONCEITED, AREN'T YOU?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "ABILITY"?
YOU THINK THAT WITHOUT PUTTING IN EFFORT
THE GODS WILL GIVE YOU A FREE PASS?
FOR ME, SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
NO.
DESPITE HAVING IT--

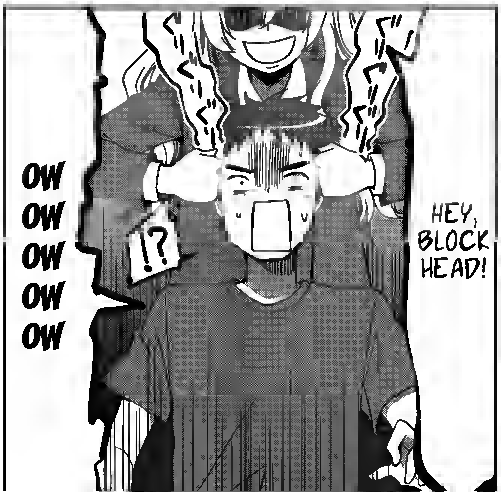
FROM THE VERY BEGIN-NING.
I'VE NEVER FELT I DEPENDED ON MY NATURAL ABILITY.

IT HIN-
DERS
MY RUN-
NING...
WHEN
THAT
HAIR IS
IN FRONT
OF ME
IT...
IT'S
JUST...
EH
...?




……

横浜


OW
OW
OW
OW
OW
!?
HEY, BLOCK HEAD!

YOU 2ND YEAR BOYS!
DON'T PICK ON THE INNOCENT 1ST YEAR GIRLS, GOT IT?!
M... MARIA-SAN..
C'MON, HOW THE HELL COULD WE BELIEVE SHE'D JUST CUT HER HAIR LIKE THAT!?
WAIT!
横浜光寮

OKAY, IT'S DONE.
SHE'S LIKE A ZASHIKI WARASHI!!
ぐぐーん!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
NO WAY.. SHE'S GOING ALONG WITH IT!?
It was nothing.

DAILY ROUTINE
STUFF LIKE THIS
AND LIKE THIS
SONE-CHAN MAY LOOK RESERVED,
BUT SHE HAS RIPPED ABS.
ヒョイッ
YOU GUYS, LISTEN UP!!
I HEARD FROM A SOURCE
THAT SHE...
SHE'S A 15 YEAR OLD HIGH SCHOOL GIRL
WITH A 6-PACK!
How about that!?
EEH?!
SFX WHISPER

TO SUM IT ALL UP!
A GIRL WHO WEARS HER SCHOOL UNIFORM AS CASUAL CLOTHING?
SONE-CHAN
How's that!?
ISN'T A BAD GIRL!
COULD SHE BE A GIRL THAT'S "CRITICAL OF PERSONAL CLOTHING"?
EEEH?!
That's where you went with this...???

I'VE GOTTA GO DO MY OWN "CLUB ACTIVITIES" SOON.
WELL,
THE POOL IS CALLING MEEE!
SFX: STROKE STROKE

Yeah.
that girl isn't being conceited.
It's just that she only cares about
BECOMING FASTER.

Beyond that is...

Yet another instance of the "real thing" appears...

TO BE CONTINUED